

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE, 210, N. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS.

TERMS, in advance. Monthly, by mail, with postage, 50 cents; quarterly, 1 dollar; semi-annually, 2 dollars; annually, 3 dollars. Single copies, 10 cents. Foreign postage, 50 cents per annum. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

THE HERALD, published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy. The Herald is published every day, except on Sundays and public holidays, at 10 cents per copy.

the country has no party," that the whig party is dead; that the American party is past praying for; but that, notwithstanding all these drawbacks, this Washington conservative caucus, after a full discussion, embracing many patriotic speeches, came to the important point of "entire confidence in the practicability of uniting all the conservative elements of opposition to the present enfeebled and distracted administration in the contest of 1860."

With this explicit statement of the objects, sentiments, proceedings and expectations of this Washington conservative opposition caucus, there can be no difficulty in determining its materials. It was not a democratic caucus; it was not a republican caucus; and it could, therefore, have been nothing else than a "conservative" of the rump of the American or Know Nothing faction. And the declaration made in behalf of this meeting to wit, that its "object is not to have a candidate elected by Northern votes alone, but by the suffrages of the people of both sections," with the belief that "an acceptable Southern candidate can carry some five or six Southern States," justifies the conclusion that the real game of this movement is to force a mortgage on the republican party for the benefit of the Southern Know Nothings and their scattered brethren in the North.

Upon this point we are sorry to confess that we cannot share in the "entire confidence" of this caucus of a crowning victory. It may be a good thing for a weak party to be first in the field, so as to secure the choice of its position; but, judging from the American experiment with Mr. Fillmore in 1856, they have but little to hope from a similar experiment now. The party concerned is practically dissolved; while the republican party, upon the general issues of slavery, believes itself to be strong and capable of dictating the terms of union to all the loose opposition materials of the country. The initiative movement, therefore, which is to determine the shape of the opposition elements for 1860 must come from the republican party—the dominant party of the North—and not from the broken fragments of the American faction, reduced to the doubtful occupation of the single Southern State of Maryland.

We believe that with such a candidate and platform as would be represented in the name of General Scott, or some such national, patriotic, party man, the opposition can sweep the country in 1860 as they did in 1840, because of the demoralization, disorganization and practical dissolution of the old democratic party. That great party, as organized under General Jackson, was substantially destroyed by the desperate jugglery of Pierce and Douglas for the Southern pro-slavery vote in the Cincinnati Convention. They were followed by a Northern reaction, which compelled that Convention to nominate Mr. Buchanan as a representative of the conservative Union sentiment of the country. Holding fast to that sentiment, his administration stands firm and strong on the confidence of the country; but where is the democratic party? Prostrated in the dust in the North, and all at sea in the South, from the fierce contentions and hostile plots and counterplots of rival leaders and scheming demagogues for the honors and spoils and plunder of the succession.

Thus, from the present outside position of Mr. Douglas as a Northern democratic leader on the one hand, and from the rampant filibustering, free trade and African slave trade proclivities of the Southern fire-eaters on the other, the democracy in 1860, instead of a solid front under the bulwarks of the administration, may be divided into two or three Presidential factions. That they can be consolidated upon any other basis than the administration is out of the question; that they will be reunited upon this basis no man from the existing feuds, dissensions and divisions in the camp, upon men and measures, sectional and factional, can undertake to say. With the democracy reunited upon the platform of the administration, the gates would be opened for a fusion of the opposition factions upon the practical questions of the day, for the outside issues of slavery and the petty divisions of factions and parties upon this abstraction, that and the other, would be all absorbed in the practical acts and tendencies of the administration and the democracy upon Cuba, Mexico, Central American affairs, and the national finances, and the reconstruction of the whole financial, commercial and business fabric of the country upon a sound, uniform and self-regulating system of checks and balances.

In default of a re-organization of the democracy upon this broad and comprehensive basis, they will most probably enter upon the campaign of 1860, not in a solid phalanx, but in several Presidential detachments. In this view, anything in the shape of a junction of the opposition forces would sweep the field. But as the republicans will shrink from any practical concessions to the opposition of the South, for fear of losing ground in the North without compensation, and as the Southern opposition have already been ruled out of the course by the strong pro-slavery sentiment excited there upon the Kansas question, they can make no concessions against slavery which will serve their purpose in the North. And so the chances stand at present in favor of two or three democratic factions, and two or three opposition factions in the field in 1860, with regard to which the administration will have as little to do as had the administration of Monroe with the scrub race of 1824.

At all events, the "entire confidence" expressed by the Know Nothing caucus at Washington in the effective union of the opposition forces for 1860 upon a conservative platform and a Southern candidate is somewhat premature. No such confidence can be properly entertained until we shall have obtained some satisfactory developments from the republican camp at the close of this Congress, or in the organization of the next. Meantime, the disorganized condition of the democratic and opposition parties, North and South, offers the most inviting opportunity to the people for a dash movement, regardless of parties or party machinery, in behalf of some such great national programme as that embodied in the name of General Scott.

CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS DAY.—It gratified us to remark yesterday that this great Christian anniversary was more generally observed by all classes of our citizens than upon any previous occasion within our remembrance. But few places of business were kept open, and those were principally amongst the vendors of food and other articles of daily necessity. From the immense crowds which filled all the city markets on the previous day, it may with justice be inferred that in all Christian countries are associated with this festival, were pretty generally complied with. It rejoices us to find that this disposition to return to one of the most genial and graceful customs

of our Old Country forefathers is gradually vanquishing the Puritanical scruples which associated it with a particular creed. The causes of hostility and vindictiveness which led to this confusion of ideas have long since passed away, and with it, we trust, will vanish all remaining objections to the strict observance of an anniversary which, apart from its religious import, exercises a kindly and wholesome influence upon the heart, and prompts it to acts of generosity and benevolence which otherwise might not be thought of. We trust that our public charities will profit largely this season by the development of these feelings. We have a long and probably a severe winter before us, and it is to be hoped that those upon whom wealth has shed its blessings will remember that property has its duties as well as its enjoyments.

The Right of Search—Has It Been Given Up by England?

When, some time since, we had occasion to correct the gross blunders of the Washington Union, in regard to the relations of our government to the filibusters on board the schooner Sassa, that journal, unable to meet the points at issue, went off on a rigmorale excursion and finally brought up with a grandiloquent assertion, in the "hurrah for Jackson" style, that England had given up the right she had so long claimed, of boarding and searching vessels on the high seas.

The question of the immunity of our flag upon the ocean is one of too great importance to be overshadowed with a few diplomatic phrases. We have maintained our question with England on the right of search is not settled, and we maintain it still. Formerly we defended our position by appealing to the history of British policy; now we defend it by a direct appeal to the documents on which the Washington Union claims that England has conceded to us the right in this long pending issue. The letter of June 8 from Mr. Dallas, referring to the subject of a change in Lord Malmesbury, is a remarkable letter. It opens by assuring General Cass that there is no hope of coming to a settlement with Lord Malmesbury on this point. He is then called off to meet the British Minister, and finds that "something within the last twelve hours had shifted his lordship's mind quite to an opposite point of the compass." Now, we have no faith in the pretended change of a State policy, that has been maintained by generations of statesmen, which is said to have taken place in the short term of twelve hours. Men do not abandon theories which have not only come to them by inheritance, but which they have themselves maintained during years of public service, so violently as this would infer. Conviction of popular right is a plant of slow growth, particularly in the mind of an Englishman.

But what are the evidences upon which this assumed change is founded? We pass over the minor points contained in Mr. Dallas' letter and Lord Malmesbury's memorandum, and come at once to the more formal statement contained in the British Minister's despatch of the 11th of June to Lord Napier. This is the true ground upon which it is assumed that England has abandoned the right she has so long claimed. And first we wish to state here, that a despatch from a British Secretary of Foreign Affairs to a British Minister in Washington, although a copy of it is given to our Secretary of State, even if its terms were all that could be wished, has no binding character upon the British government in regard to an acknowledgment which it has on several occasions refused to clothe with the sacred rights of a formal treaty. Now let us see what are the terms of the concession made by Lord Malmesbury, and which Mr. Dallas thought was a complete change of his lordship's position. He begins by recognizing as sound General Cass' statement of the principles of international law, and immediately overrides the law by the declaration that the British government holds it to be "indispensable to civilization and the police of the high seas" that the right of search shall be conceded by us. He then makes an argument, false in its premises and fallacious in its deductions, to show that if this concession is not made by us the American flag will become upon the ocean the terror of every lawless and defenceless trader.

And now comes the true point of this despatch. The British government, anxious to avoid difficulty with us, sends orders to her cruisers to stop the searching of American vessels for the present; but Lord Malmesbury expressly states that these orders to discontinue the practice will only remain in force "until some arrangement in the sense I have pointed out"—that is, a formal concession by us of the right to search American vessels at sea in time of peace—"shall be made with the United States government or declined on their part." To make this fact the more pointed, Lord Malmesbury concludes his note by stating that her Majesty's government regrets that the opportunity, has been lost to settle "those vexatious and irritating controversies which are inevitable as long as the United States refuses to abrogate the present law of nations, and permit British cruisers to overhauled American ships whenever and wherever a British commander may think proper to do so."

We comment to the Union a careful perusal of this despatch of Lord Malmesbury, and suggest to it that the next time it wishes to ignore the true point at issue in an argument, it select some more logical, or at least plausible ground for self-justification, than the assertion that England has been forced to abandon her claim to the right of search. Perhaps the Union will recommend the publication of the two "additional notes" between Lord Malmesbury and himself, to which Mr. Dallas refers in the opening paragraph of his despatch of June 8. We could then see how far his lordship changed his position in twelve hours. Thus far we do not believe that he changed it at all. Mr. Dallas and the Washington Union to the contrary notwithstanding.

CRIME IN THE METROPOLIS.—The term of the Court of General Sessions which closed on Friday exhibited a heavy array of crimes of a grievous character, the frequency of which argues badly for the condition of the city. But it is satisfactory, in this state of affairs, to find that we have a criminal Judge endowed with firmness and discretion, and animated with a desire to preserve the peace of the city, who administers justice to the criminals with an even hand. The severity of the sentences passed by Judge Russell on prisoners convicted of grave crimes during the late term of his court, must convince the rowdies and ruffians who infest this community that the law is not to be violated, or their own wild passions indulged, with impunity, while he occupies a seat upon the bench of the criminal court. The crimes most prevalent at the present day seem to be burglary and stealing with the knife, and upon all the prisoners convicted of

those offences Judge Russell inflicted the heaviest punishment. The leniency which has been so long exercised towards criminals has unquestionably emboldened that class and impressed them with the idea that the law and the forms of our courts were mere mockeries; but the course of our City Judge is beginning to convince them that they have been somewhat in error, and we do not think that the good effects will be manifested by a reduction of crime, and a better order of things generally in the condition of the metropolis.

THE UPPER AND LOWER STRATA OF RELIGIOUS LIFE IN NEW YORK.—Religious life and the modes of religious worship in New York have recently assumed a new and somewhat curious phase. During the financial crisis, and succeeding it, a religious revival so far affected all classes of our citizens that prayer meetings, public confessions of repentant sinners, from Wall street, from the prize ring and from the stage, were matters of daily and nightly occurrence all over the city, not alone in the churches, but in warehouses and basements, and everywhere that a congregation could be accommodated. But now the inspiration of religious fervor has fallen upon the lyric and dramatic stage; and where the divine compositions of Meyerbeer and Verdi and Rossini delighted the upper crust of our population during the week, or the love-and-murder efforts of the sensation dramatist "split the ears of the groundlings" in a minor theatre, songs of praise and words of holiness are echoed every Sunday evening. The upper stratum of religious life exudes its superabundant feelings of piety with respectable and decorous bearing in the fashionable and elegant Academy of Music, while the lower stratum does the same with cheers, cat-calls and stamping of feet in the National theatre on Chatham street. The crowd which floods to both houses is immense. At the Academy hundreds are turned away for want of room, every Sunday evening; the doors are locked when the house is full, and all who arrive too late are compelled either to adopt the out-of-fashion practice of going to church, or to reserve their fervor for another Sabbath—a difficult thing to do in this impulsive city. At the Chatham street theatre the attendance is so large that the doorknobs are obliged to select the audience, admitting the well clad and excluding humble piety in seedy garments; a posse of police is required to keep order at the doors; and the audience express their impatience at the non-arrival of the preacher, in the usual theatrical fashion, by stamping and whistling, and compliment the salient points of his discourse with loud applause. Religious ceremonies are again to take place at these theatres to-night.

Meanwhile the churches are aff and with diminished attendance, and it looks as if the clergy, to preserve their popularity, would have to abandon the pulpit for the stage. Time was when such a descent would have shocked the religious sentiment of the country; and even now, whatever is left of the strict old Puritans must move uneasily in their graves at the spectacle. One consolation, however, is that those who advocate the claims of the stage to be considered a moral instructor have now the satisfaction of beholding a practical illustration of their theory.

THE CUBAN QUESTION IN 1856.—The letter of Gen. Jessup, written in 1856, to President Monroe, when that gentleman was Secretary of State, upon the military relations of Cuba to the United States, the intrigues of the British and Spanish agents among our Southern Indians, and the determination of General Jessup, with the approbation of General Jackson, to take that island by a coup de main in the event of certain contingencies, which we publish in another column, will throw some new light upon this momentous question to a great many of our readers.

It will be seen that the great principles involved in our national progress, so clearly laid down by Gen. Jessup more than forty years ago, have been abundantly borne out by the developments of time. What was then of comparatively easy accomplishment has now become more difficult, while the necessity of acquiring that island as a portion of our national defences has grown with the growth of our population and their interests in the Mississippi valley. The same continued development must attend the Cuba question in the future, that has accompanied it in the past, and the difficulties now in the way will increase with the increase of our needs. A new impulse is also given to it by the opening of our Pacific empire; and the day is not far distant when the lines of our domestic trade and travel to the Pacific will as completely encircle Cuba as do those of our Southern trade wrap its northern shore.

Congress should act at an early day in this matter. Although our statesmen have long seen the necessity of Cuba becoming a member of our Union, and the public mind of the country is fully alive to it, the representative voice of the people has never found utterance, and even now it is a question which every politician takes up or lays aside, as he thinks may suit his individual interests. The action of Congress would make the question a national one, and give it an impulse which it will ever after. We hope that body will reject all personal aims in this great question, and authorize the purchase of the island, whenever it can be made. The letter of General Jessup brings vividly to view how much we have lost by not acting with foresight years ago. We shall repeat this loss to the country a hundred fold if Congress